



News Release

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of Inspector General
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NASA Subcontractor Employee Pleads Guilty

On November 2, 1999, Martin A. Francis, consultant for Central Florida Collision Centers, Orlando, FL pled guilty in U.S. District Court, Orlando, FL to a one count information for violating the Anti-Kickback Act. Francis entered the plea in relation to kickback monies he offered and provided to a NASA contractor. Following the illegal payment by Francis, Central Florida Collision Centers received a subcontract to paint work stands used in the shuttle program.

In a related investigation, Michael McCusker, former Lockheed Martin Services, Inc. employee, pled guilty and was sentenced on February 19, 1999, to receiving illegal kickbacks from Francis. Sentencing for Francis is scheduled for January 19, 2000.

The investigation was conducted by Special Agents of the NASA Inspector General's Office of Criminal Investigations, Defense Criminal Investigative Service, and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. The prosecution of this matter is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Ana T. Escobar, Orlando, FL (407-648-7500).

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